



NEWS RELEASE

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Date: October 10, 2002
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lora H. Cole Appointed Deputy Commissioner over the Mississippi Department of Corrections' Community Corrections Division

Jackson – Mississippi Department of Corrections Commissioner Christopher Epps has announced the appointment of Lora H. Cole to the position of Deputy Commissioner to head the agency's Community Corrections Division. Cole, a 25-year veteran with the agency, is a graduate of Delta State University, Cleveland Miss., and holds a BA in Criminal Justice and a M.Ed. in Guidance and Counseling.

"The Mississippi Department of Corrections is extremely fortunate to have a person with Deputy Commissioner Cole's background and knowledge to head the Community Corrections Division (CCD)," said Commissioner Christopher Epps. "Cole's leadership skills are an asset to our agency and will be extremely valuable as she directs CCD."

The Community Corrections Division (CCD) is charged with the supervision of offenders that are still under the jurisdiction of the state but who are not currently incarcerated. CCD's Field Services division has 235 field officers who are responsible for the supervision of offenders released on parole, earned release supervision, and sentenced by the court to probation. Other Field Services program responsibilities include Interstate Compact, Pre-Trial Diversion and Intensive Supervision, an electronic monitoring program. CCD is also responsible for 17 satellite facilities and four restitution centers. The current street supervision caseload is 20,785.

"I'm deeply honored to have been selected to head this highly responsible division," said Deputy Commissioner Cole. "The role that CCD staff members play in providing proper guidance to offenders is most crucial. It is incumbent for us to work as a team to assure that our mission is fulfilled."